



RURAL EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Changes to the Program in FY17 & FY18

REAP



March 23, 2017

REAP OVERVIEW

Title V, Part B of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act Of 2015, authorizes REAP, which comprises two formula grant programs:

- ▶ The Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA) program [ESSA, Title V, Part B, Subpart 1] and
- ▶ The Rural Low-Income School (RLIS) program [ESSA, Title V, Part B, Subpart 2].

Both programs were designed to supplement funding to help rural local education agencies (LEAs) increase student academic achievement.



REAP OVERVIEW

- ▶ The RLIS Program targets rural LEAs that serve large numbers of low-income students.
- ▶ The US Department of Education makes allocations to SEAs, who in turn make sub-grants to eligible LEAs.
- ▶ The SRSA Program provides funds to very small, rural LEAs.
- ▶ The US Department of Education awards these grants directly to eligible LEAs.
- ▶ SRSA-eligible LEAs also qualify for the Alternative Fund Use Authority [Section 5221 (a) & (c)] that provides additional flexibility in how they can expend federal education funds.



CHANGE #1:

SRSA ANNUAL APPLICATION PROCESS



Before FY2017

LEAs needed only apply once to receive SRSA grant funds each fiscal year thereafter.

Effective FY2017

If an LEA does not submit an SRSA application by the established deadline, the LEA will not receive an SRSA grant for that year.

Eligible LEAs will need to submit an application for the SRSA grant each fiscal year to receive grant funds.

CHANGE #2: GRANT MAKING TIMELINE

FY2017 Grant-Making Timeline:

April 3-June 5 (Tentative) 2017: **NEW!!**

- ▶ SRSA Application Period

July 2017:

- ▶ REAP Team notifies SEAs of all RLIS-Eligible LEAs (List will exclude dual eligible LEAs that submitted an SRSA application)

September 2017:

- ▶ SRSA and RLIS grants are awarded.



CHANGE #2: GRANT MAKING TIMELINE

FY2018 Grant-Making Timeline:

September, 2017:

- ▶ SEAs receive eligibility spreadsheets from the REAP Team at US ED.

October, 2017:

- ▶ SEAs submit eligibility spreadsheet updates to REAP Team at US ED.

January-February, 2018:

SRSA Application Period

- ▶ May, 2018:

REAP Team notifies SEAs of all RLIS-eligible LEAs (List will exclude dual-eligible LEAs that submitted an SRSA application).

- ▶ July, 2018:

SRSA and RLIS grants are awarded.



OVERVIEW OF THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

In December, 2015, Congress re-authorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965. This re-authorization is known as the Every Student Succeeds Act, or ESSA (PL 114-95).

- ▶ The ESSA supersedes the version of the ESEA known as No Child Left Behind, or NCLB.
- ▶ The REAP program continues under ESSA.
- ▶ REAP provisions are found under Title V, Part B of the ESEA, as amended. You can read the law here:

<https://www2.ed.gov/documents/essa-act-of-1965.pdf>



CHANGE 3.1:

SRSA ELIGIBILITY

The following table compares the guidelines for SRSA eligibility before and after ESSA implantation in FY2017. [ESSA, Title V, Part B, Subpart 1, Section 5211 (b)].





Under NCLB	Under ESSA (Beginning in FY2017)
<p>1. The total number of students in average daily attendance (ADA) at all of the schools served by the LEA is fewer than 600</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Each county in which a school served by the LEA is located has a total population density of fewer than 10 persons per square mile.</p>	<p>1. SAME</p>
<p>1. All of the schools served by the LEA are designated with a school locale code of 7 or 8, as determined the Department's National Center for Education Statistics.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The secretary of education has determined, based on a demonstration by the LEA and concurrence of the SEA, that the LEA is located in an area defined as rural by the state.</p>	<p>1. All of the schools served by the LEA are designated with a school locale code of 41, 42, or 43, as determined by the Secretary of Education.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The secretary of education has determined, based on a demonstration by the LEA and concurrence of the SEA, that the LEA is located in an area defined as rural by the state.</p>
<p>N/A</p>	<p>If an LEA is a member of an educational service agency (ESA) that does not receive SRSA funds, and the LEA meets SRSA requirement 1 and 2, the LEA is eligible to receive SRSA funds.</p>

CHANGE #3.2: RLIS ELIGIBILITY

This table compares the guidelines for RLIS eligibility before and after ESSA implementation in FY2017. [ESSA, Title V, Part B, Subpart 2, Section 5221 (b)]

Under NCLB	Under ESSA (beginning FY2017)
1. The LEA must not be eligible for a grant under the Small Rural School Achievement Program (# 84.358A).	No longer applicable
1. Twenty percent or more of the children aged 5 to 17 served by the LEA must be from families with incomes below the poverty line.	1. SAME
1. All schools served by the LEA must have a locale code of 6, 7, or 8 (assigned by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics).	1. All schools served by the LEA must have a locale code of 32, 33, 41, 42, or 43, as determined by the Secretary of Education OR The Secretary of Education has determined, based on a demonstration by the LEA and concurrence of the SEA, that the LEA is located in an area defined as rural by the state.





CHANGE #4.1: DUAL ELIGIBILITY

Under ESSA, the provisions described in the right hand column supersede previous guidelines: [ESSA, Title V, Part B, Subpart 2, Section 5225]

Under NCLB	Under ESSA (Beginning FY2017)
<p>1. An LEA that was eligible for SRSA could not choose to participate in RLIS, instead of SRSA. Therefore, LEAs could not be eligible for both the SRSA and the RLIS grant.</p>	<p>1. LEAs can be eligible for both SRSA and RLIS and must choose one grant under which to receive funds in a given fiscal year.</p>
<p>1. REAP-Flex was only an option for SRSA grantees and did not apply to any RLIS grantees.</p>	<p>1. Dual-eligible LEAs that choose to participate in RLIS may exercise the Alternative Fund Use Authority [ESSA, Title V, Part B, Subpart 1, Section 5221(a) & (c)]. All grantees wishing to use the Alternative Fund Use Authority must notify SEAs by the date established by the SEAs.</p> <p>NOTE: LEAs eligible only for RLIS cannot exercise the Alternative Fund Use Authority.</p>

CHANGE #4.2: HOLD HARMLESS

Under NCLB	Under ESSA (Beginning FY2017)
N/A	LEAs that are not eligible for the SRSA grant, as a result of changes in the districts local code designation, and who are also not dually eligible for RLIS, will receive a reduced award in years 2017, 2018, and 2019.



CHANGE #5.1: USE OF SRSA FUNDS

The following table shows the difference in permissible uses for SRSA before and after ESSA

Under NCLB	Under ESSA (beginning FY2017)
Title I, Part A (Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged)	Title I, Part A (Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies)
Title II, Part A (Improving Teacher Quality State Grants)	SAME
Title II, Part D (Educational Technology State Grants)	No longer applicable
Title III (Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students)	SAME
Title IV, Part A (Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities)	Title IV, Part A (Student Support and Academic Enrichment)
Title IV, Part B (21st-Century Community Learning Centers)	SAME
Title V, Part A (State Grants for Innovative Programs)	No longer applicable
Under the REAP-Flex provision, SRSA-eligible may use any or all of their Title II-A & IV-A funding for allowable activities permissible under REAP-eligible Title programs	Under the Alternative Fund Use Authority, LEAs may consolidate any and all Title II-A and Title IV-A funding for allowable activities permissible under REAP-eligible Title programs [ESSA, Title V, Part B, Subpart 1, Section 5221(a) & (c)]



CHANGE #5.2: USE OF RLIS FUNDS

The following table shows the difference in permissible uses for RLIS grant funds before and after ESSA implementation in FY17.

Under NCLB	Under ESSA (beginning FY2017)
Title I, Part A (Improving Basic Programs Operated by LEAs)	Title I, Part A (Improving Basic Programs Operated by LEAs)
Teacher recruitment and retention, including the use of signing bonuses and other financial incentives	No longer applicable
Title II, Part D (Educational Technology State Grants, # 84.318)	No longer applicable
Title III (Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students)	SAME
Title IV, Part A (Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities)	Title IV, Part A (Student Support and Academic Enrichment)
Parental involvement activities	SAME
Teacher professional development, including programs that train teachers to use technology to improve teaching and that train teachers of students with special needs	Title II, Part A (Improving Teacher Quality State Grants)



RESOURCES:

Grants.gov	SRSA application website	www.grants.gov
G5	Site where LEAs access REAP grant funds	www.g5.gov 1-888-336-8930
System for Award Management (SAM)	Required registration of DUNS number	www.sam.gov 1-866-606-8220
Max.gov	Online data collection system for REAP spreadsheets	www.max.gov
SRSA and RLIS eligibility spreadsheets		http://www2ed.gov/programs/reapsra/eligibility.html
Locale Code information: https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/rural_locales.asp		



QUESTIONS??



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